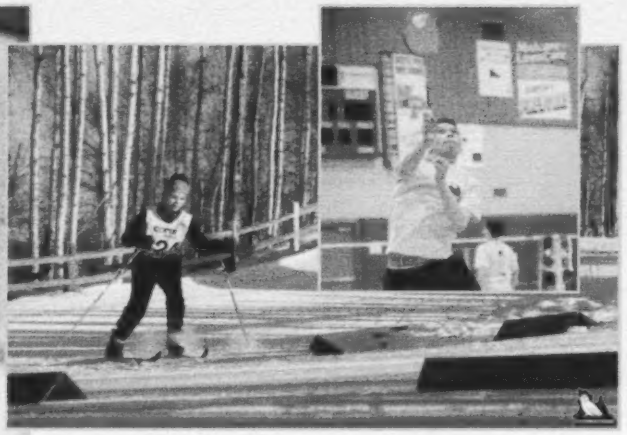
KATIVIK

Quarterly Update

Keeping Nunavimmiut up to date on the work of the Kativik Regional Government

Team Nunavik–Québec in Fairbanks, Alaska



TNQ athletes competed in Arctic Sports, Dene Games, Badminton, Table Tennis, Snowshoeing and, for the first time ever, Cross Country Skiing.

Team Nunavik–Québec (TNQ) represented Nunavik well at the Arctic Winter Games held in Fairbanks, Alaska, from March 16 to 22. Overall, 31 Ulus (7 gold, 11 silver and 13 bronze) were won. Notable performances at the Games included:

- Naomi Sala, Juvenile Female – Four Ulus in Dene Games (silver in Snowsnake and All-Around; bronze in Stick Pull and Hand Games); two Fair Play Pins; as well as a third-place finish at the AWG's Got Talent show.
- Dylan Gordon, Junior Male – Three Ulus in Arctic Sports (gold in Kneel Jump and All-Around; silver in Arm Pull).
- Deseray Cumberbatch, Open Female – Three Ulus in Arctic Sports (bronze in Sledge Jump, Triple Jump and Arm Pull) while demonstrating exceptional team leadership.
- The entire female Cross Country Ski relay team – Fair Play Pin.

Throughout the seven-day Games, Nunavimmiut were kept informed of all of TNQ's accomplishments on an hourly basis via Facebook and daily via regional radio with updates and athlete interviews.

Chaperones, coaches and mission staff should be recognized for their dedication to TNQ, and KRG staff for their hard work in the months leading up to as well as during the event. Nunavik also sponsored two officials at the Games.

TNQ's participation in the 2014 Arctic Winter Games was made possible with the generous support of a number of businesses and organizations with activities in the region, such as Glencore Group (Raglan Mine), Hydro-Québec, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton, Air Inuit, the Federation of Cooperatives of Northern Québec, the Kativik School Board, the Makivik Corporation, the Ungaluk Program for safer communities, the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (education, recreation and sports), and the northern villages.

KRG Staff Update

According to recent figures, the KRG employs 332 staff and managers to deliver its programs and services, not including regional policing. Fifty-four per cent of these workers are based in Kuujjuaq and 46% in the other communities. Overall, Inuit make up 62% of the KRG workforce. The Kativik Regional Police Force is staffed by 78 officers, managers and administrative personnel. An on-going, major focus of the KRG Human Resources Section is to carry out recruitment for positions that have become vacant due to employee turnover.

With the office of the Director General, the KRG Human Resources Section has worked over the last few months to design a succession management plan. The aim of the plan is to expand expertise among selected Inuit management employees so they may become qualified to fill key management positions in the future. A strong commitment on the part of employee participants and the solid support of the whole organization will be key factors in the eventual success of the plan.

Kautaapikkut Takes Aim at Inuit Workers in Mining

Jobs in Nunavik's mining industry could grow to as high as 6,000 over the coming decade. However, not more than 230 Inuit were employed in this industry in 2013. Mineral exploration, mine construction, mining production and related contracting therefore represent meaningful sources of employment for Nunavimmiut.

Kautaapikkut is a new strategy to significantly increase the number of Inuit working in the mining industry over the next five to ten years. The strategy is spearheaded by the KRG with regional, government and industry stakeholders. Objectives of the strategy include building training capacity, strengthening pre-employment processes, reinforcing employee retention, and improving education levels. Nunavik's labour force is currently characterized by a low number of high school, vocational and post-secondary graduates.

Two objectives of the Kautaapikkut strategy are to build regional capacity for mining job training and strengthen support services for Inuit employees.

Important partner investments in Kautaapikkut have already been obtained, including $15.9 million from Glencore Group (Raglan Mine), $11.9 million from Canadian Royalties, $5 million from Employment and Social Development Canada, $4.6 million from the KRG, and $3.8 million from Emploi-Québec (employment). Other partners are the Makivik Corporation, the Nunavik Landholding Corporations Association, the Nunavik Mineral Exploration Fund, the Kativik School Board and Oceanic Iron Ore.

KRG Council: Appointments

In February, Davidee Angutinguak of Aupaluk was appointed to sit on the Nunavik Mineral Exploration Fund and Daniel Oovaut of Quaqtaq to sitting of the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau. The next sitting of the KRG Council will take place from May 26 to 29 in Ivujivik and will be broadcast on TNI regional radio.

Recreation – Optimizing Local Resources

The KRG Recreation Department's 2014–2016 action plan sets out to make recreation an exciting and meaningful option in the communities. A key theme of the plan is the active involvement of each northern village.

Optimized use of existing local infrastructure and human resources can permit the delivery of quality activities for all residents. To improve coordination, focus will be placed on developing solid community recreation plans. Also targeted under this sustainable approach is the vital contribution of volunteers ***(tunisimanikkut ikajurtik)***. Individuals are needed in every community to donate their time and leadership.

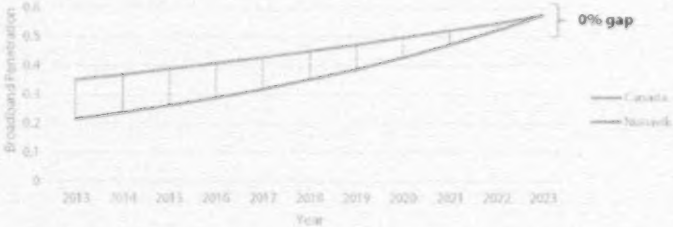
In parallel, the KRG Recreation Department plans to continue its regional programs, such as Team Nunavik–Québec, the Cirqiniq Program, as well as the martial arts and kite-ski training programs. Regular evaluation ensures a maximum number of activities, enhanced local leadership and focus on Inuit cultural content.

Socio-Economic Impact Study on Internet Service

The KRG is sponsoring a study to determine in concrete terms the economic and social impacts of broadband telecommunications in Nunavik communities. Important potential benefits include advanced and more rapid services in education, job-skills development, health care and justice.

Three distinct scenarios are being used to study potential impacts: a reduced level of broadband if government funding is cut in 2016; a continuation of current services if funding is maintained; and enhanced connectivity if funding is increased. Increased funding would permit greater broadband speeds and foster a user penetration rate similar to that in the south. The next step under the study will be to estimate the cost-saving benefits for Québec of enhanced broadband capacity in the justice and health sectors, as well as in the developing mining sector.

In the fall of 2013, a KRG-commissioned prefeasibility study concluded that an enhanced broadband network with up to 30 times more capacity is feasible but would cost between $95 million and $158 million.



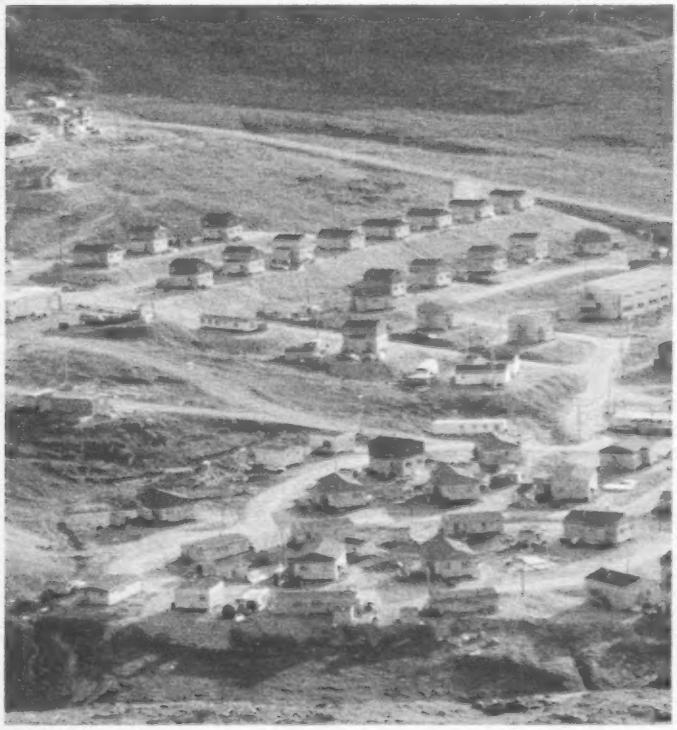
Increased use of broadband Internet in Nunavik would serve to stimulate economic activity in the region.

Adapting Municipalities for Climate Change

As climate change continues to affect communities, the durability of public infrastructure is a major issue for the KRG and the northern villages. The KRG Renewable Resources, Environment, Lands and Parks Department, in cooperation with the Municipal Public Works Department, is consequently involved in a number of adaptation projects focused on knowledge sharing, awareness and local capacity building.

These projects are improving drinking water supply systems as well as roads, landing strips and breakwaters, proposing best practices for construction and urban planning, and adapting municipal service delivery to reduce permafrost thawing and greenhouse gas emissions. In concrete terms, some northern villages have already begun to revise snow removal maps, and water distribution and sewage collection routes. Excessive municipal vehicle idling in winter and the eventual replacement of inefficient community freezers are also being examined.

The partners of the KRG and the northern villages in these endeavours include the Québec research consortium Ouranos, Centre d'études nordiques (northern studies), Trent University, ArcticNet, the Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire (municipal affairs, regions and land occupancy), the Ministère des Transports du Québec (transportation), and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.



Renewed urban planning and optimized water truck delivery are two ways municipalities are adapting to climate change.

Training and Job Creation Projects for 2014

In 2014–2015, roughly $7.4 million will be available for training and job creation projects in important areas of economic and social development in the communities. Project proponents this year include several northern villages, the Saputiit Youth Association, the Nunavik Youth Houses Association, the Saturviit Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik, and the Unaaq Men's Association, as well as all major regional organizations.

Educator training over the years has produced a skilled early childhood education workforce in every community.

Training and job creation priorities are identified at the beginning of each year by the Kativik Regional Employment and Training Committee (KRETC) and tabled with the KRG Council in February. Most of the funding for these training and job creation priorities is paid by Employment and Social Development Canada.

Improved Cost-of-Living Measures Announced

Improvements announced on April 1 by the KRG and the Makivik Corporation will lower the prices paid by Nunavimmiut for food, personal care and household products, gasoline, and major harvesting equipment, household appliances and furniture. They will also increase the annual allowance paid to elders and aim to make country food more available in the communities. Of particular note:

- Over 300 food and non-food items across many categories have been added to the Food and Other Essentials Program. Discounts of between 20 and 40% are now applied to these items to bring their costs more in line with the prices paid for the same items in southern Québec.
- Under the Gasoline Program, the per-litre subsidy applied at gas pumps in the communities has been raised to 31¢.

For detailed descriptions of all regional cost-of-living measures, visit http://www.krg.ca/en/cost-of-living-program.

Moving towards an Adequate Rent Scale Review

Recently, the KRG and the Makivik Corporation indicated to the Société d'habitation du Québec (housing corporation, SHQ) their intention to conduct a study over the coming months to accurately assess the capacity of Inuit households to pay rent in relation to the region's high cost of living. The regional organizations also again demanded, for 2014, a freeze on the 8% rent increase that has been imposed annually by the SHQ since July 2010.

Since 2005, the SHQ has failed to fulfill its commitment to carry out a proper rent-scale review in consultation with Nunavik organizations. While the SHQ may transmit rent-increase notices in April, it is still hoped that on-going discussions will lead to a subsequent cancellation of the July 1, 2014, increase.

Social housing tenants are encouraged to contact the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau to determine if they are eligible for lower rent geared to their incomes.

KMHB Activities Update

Interim President of the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau (KMHB), George Berthe, reported at the last KRG Council sitting on some of the KMHB's ongoing activities. In particular, it was noted regarding housing construction that:

- 900 units are still needed to meet current demand.
- Negotiations have been started by Nunavik, Canada and Québec regarding the 2015–2020 *Agreement respecting the Implementation of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement relating to Housing in Nunavik*.
- Construction of a new four, one-bedroom-apartment model is being planned in some villages.

As well, it was noted that major social housing renovations will be carried out this year in five villages for some 100 units. The KMHB also acknowledged that interest in the homeownership program remains low. Rising construction costs, municipal tax and insurance issues, as well as high operating costs are keeping homeownership out of the reach of most Nunavimmiut.

Power Rate Increase Postponed

The Régie de l'énergie (power board) recently asked Hydro-Québec to postpone for one year an increase to second tier power consumption rates. Hydro-Québec had proposed to increase in 2014 the rate for homeowners throughout Québec by 3.4% annually plus an additional 8% in Nunavik.

The Régie agreed with the KRG and the Makivik Corporation that the overall increase will have serious socioeconomic impacts on regional private homeowners, businesses and public organizations. In a resolution adopted in February, the KRG Council proposed that steps be taken to help reduce the impact of the increase on power bills through a thorough investigation of the causes of electricity overconsumption as well as new energy efficiency and awareness programs.

Quaqtaq Airport Terminal Inauguration

The inauguration of renovated and expanded airport infrastructure in Quaqtaq took place on February 19. Recent major work totalling close to $5.6 million included the reconstruction and expansion of the terminal building, the installation of an automatic runway access gate, and the upgrading of the maintenance garage.

Community airports, like the one in Quaqtaq, serve as a vital link between communities and provide meaningful employment opportunities.

Parnasimautik

More than 60 Inuit from all Nunavik communities, Chisasibi and Montreal attended the Parnasimautik youth conference organized in March where they provided meaningful input on the priorities of a regional vision of development.

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